



The County Line *RoadRunner*

Published Monthly by The Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club, Inc.

Editor: David E. Manescu, W6CCM, 9323 Pennywood Rd., Santee, CA 92071-2135

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Number 1

Crumbs from the Cookie Monster

Since there was no December MARAC meeting, there are no minutes to report. So since there is an open page, I decided to use it for my column. Looking

back to August when I volunteered to act as Editor/Publisher I feel that I have kept the same high standards established by my predecessors. At least I hope so. Needless to say this has been a very rewarding experience for me. I am back in the mainstream of my real love, County Hunting.

As Editor I make extensive use of the County Hunters Web Site and would invite you all to visit it. I get a lot of input from it and shall continue to make use of it as time goes by. What I especially like is getting articles from members and being able to advise them that the article has been received and is set up for printing. Perhaps I should explain exactly how the RoadRunner comes to life each month. As soon as I print the current month's issue and drop it into the mail to the printer, I make a backup copy on paper and on disk and then strip out the text from all pages except the first and the last. This gives me a template for the next month. Now I am ready to start laying

out the next issue. I check the web site and both of my mail addresses daily and as soon as I get something of value, I put it into a file on my hard drive. After a bit I have collected several items which will be used so I start laying out page by page. I use Ventura Publisher and make each page a separate chapter. This allows me more flexibility and lets me utilize space more advantageously. I use Times Roman type font, 10.5 points on 11.5 point interline spacing. I downsize the fonts when necessary to make certain items fit. For instance, the Internet addresses as set at 9.5 points with 10 point interline spacing.

I make every attempt to keep each issue as well balanced as possible. In closing, if you send articles via snail mail there are a few guidelines I should like you to follow; First if sending a disk file, use an approved disk mailer. The PO canceling machines play hell with the slides on the 3.5 disks. As a precaution however, include a hard copy print out of the article. Do not format the copy, please, straight ASCII text. Try to limit your copy to one column unless you really have something to say.

Our Publishing Policy
Opinions expressed in articles are those of the author and may not reflect those of the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club.

Articles from members are welcomed. The Editor reserves the

right to edit all articles for size and content.

We shall not publish any article that is racial, sexist or otherwise in poor taste. Articles may be sent FAX to 619 258-1930. Articles may also be sent via the Internet at w6ccm@4dcomm.com or w6ccm@juno.com. Deadline is 20th of the month.

FCC stops renewal reminders

As of 22 October, the FCC has ceased issuing Form 610R license expiration notices—reminders to hams that their tickets are going to expire within the next 90 days and that they must request renewal. The last notices sent by FCC covered into February, 1997, although the specific date was not available. A Form 610R for renewal must be returned by mail only to the FCC. An FCC Public Notice is expected within a few days.

The termination of the Form 610R means that hams, whose licenses issued for ten-year periods, must take the initiative to remember the renewal date of their tickets and file a Form 610. An FCC spokesman in Gettysburg says the Commission hopes to have a Form 610 available soon on the World Wide Web to permit on-line renewals.

WORLD RADIO Jan 1997

DATELINE CW By Ed, KN4Y

A county unworked, a newsletter unread,
 A tree with fruit unharvested;
 A road untrod;
 a state whose county lines
 Lack yet the mobile CW whines;
 A county whose wide boarder lies
 In silent shade beneath silent skies;
 This is 1997 the Year that for you waits
 Beyond tomorrow's nand, nor, and/or gates.

This new year was a major improvement over last year, I stayed away from Gator's special blend and had only one glass of red wine to toast the arrival of 1997. The CW net was active with mobiles so while I listened hoping to add to my Bingo total I brought up the Peach 3 program on my computer. Let see now, WAØLKL, there, now I will change the call to KØVPP, his new call. Update. Oh, Oh, an error message...no data was displayed for KØVPP. Dang napit, I yelled, the data is the same only the call sign was changed, you stupid computer. I tried again but cannot change the call. I was looking for the ball peen hammer when the window pane in the door of the shack started to rattle. Peach 3 saved by Gator, the computer will live to byte another day. Gator's truck slides to a stop without the sound of empty beer cans sliding across the truck bed. Has my anger affected my hearing or could someone else be driving a truck with an unmuffled engine.

The shack door opened and there stood a grinning Gator holding a hand key. I slap my forehead and say "Greetings and Happy New Year Gator. WOW, that is a neat looking key, how did you get it?" I ask, not really wanting to know.

"I took the empty beer cans to that recycle place and with the money bought this key from that old ham in the valley, you know the one that runs his linear all the time." (That explains the silent stop) "I was gonna use it to practice my code sending but the ham said it was a waste of time because the coast guard and MARS no longer uses CW, is that true? why you be so red in the face?"

I could see Gator was upset because his chew was sliding from cheek to cheek, "I will tell you about the red blush later, but yes that is true, but then the Coast Guard did not use packet, AMTOR or slow scan TV and those modes are still being used by hams."

"Really, you not funning me?" "No way Gator, CW will be with us for a long time, it is what separates the..." "BOY! I feel better already, by the way Happy New Year and I will continue to study the code, my goal in '97 is to give Al a contact on CW."

"That's the spirit Gator, but the reason I was red in the face is I could not change a call in a address program for county hunting and I almost lost my cool, but now I am back in control, get a couple of cool ones Gator."

Gator opens the refrigerator and gets a couple cool ones, "Did the guy have a USA number?" Gator asks as he freshened his chew while popping the tops.

"What has that to do with it?"

Gator points to my USA CA certificate, See it has your name and call on it so if you change your call would you not have to send the certificate in and have it changed, or maybe work all the counties with your new call, you told me yourself that the FCC gives you a new license when you change your call, so why would you not have to change your certificate, what be the difference?" Gator asks as he squeezes the empty can until the top and bottom touch,

"Gator, the FCC used to require a ham to change a call sign only when moving to a different call area, so any award is actually given to the named ham, the call is merely an identifier, you can have several certificates each with a different call, it is tradition." I forgot Gator does not understand tradition and empty my cool one as Gator ponders the situation.

Gator pops the top on a couple more cool ones, "That makes no sense to me, if you get a new call and I get your old call (my new call) then I become the contact to all the hams you contacted before I got the call. I have destroyed you as an entity for all those contacts you made with the call, you no longer exist, because I be, therefore I am. For instance, I was reading about ten-ten numbers, a person could get two ten-ten numbers for working two different hams that had at one time the same call, so why not just use name and numbers?"

Gator had that look as one about to say checkmate. "You seem to have confused reality with amateur radio. I guess we forget that the call is what is used in directories and logs, boy this makes the date in the log real important so the correct call book can be checked to find out who was actually worked. I will have to think about your argument, the FCC has put a new meaning to RIP."

"I bet AL could straighten you guys out!"

Gator picks up an envelope off the floor "What is this letter from Pete K4QFK?" Gator opens the letter, "WOW, this Pete really reamed you a new one, who is he and what did you do so awful?"

"Pete was the awards chairperson for the county hunters. Gator, look at this book and tell me what the title is?"

"It sez county hunters last county award application book."

"Right, and how many applications are in the book" "Well 28, 29, 30 there be 30 in the book."

"I figured since this is an application form for an award I would fill a couple out and sent them to Pete. Next thing I get that letter in the mail. It seems that there is a new application form that has to be used"

"How were you suppose to know that?." Gator asks.

"Well it seems like he published the information many times in the County Line RoadRunner newsletter." Gator smiles, "And you did not read it"

"No, I mean yes, I read the article, everyone hangs on Pete's words, but it did not register in my head and anyhow you know how I hate to waste anything."

"You gonna get even?", "Yep." "How?" "Next time I work him mobile I am gonna give him a 218 report." We spray beer into the air as we enjoy a good fit of laughter. "But, we now have a new MARAC awards chairman, he is Vern, WB3EIT."

Gator throws the letter in the burn can, "By the way you got any more stories about Gene, WITEE, and his travels, I told Bubba about Gene getting stranded in the booger state but she did not understand, she be not a county hunter" "Gator, that is called the Badger State and yes I do, this story is about red clay just like that stuff all over your truck..." "That be the sign of a fearless traveler." "I do not think that being unable to go around a mud hole is fearless." "You are getting to be an old fart, go on with the story."

The crisp peaceful fall sky is shattered by the BONG! BONG! BONG! of a distant bell, it is Gator's paging system. "Gotta go, have customers awaiting, know what you get when you cross a pit bull with a poodle?" Gator yells as his double clutches to second gear. "What?" "A vicious gossip!" Gator disappears into a cloud of dust yelling 2 1 8, 2 1 8.

As I pick up the empties I pick up my mobile log and flip through it, the first call in each county is WA6VJP. My eyes become moist as I think about the many county contacts, mobile runs, rag chews and MARAC conventions Ed and I had together. When running counties mobile it is a strange feeling to call CHN?, and not have Ed come back. If a NCS is needed for the angelic CW net, God got the best.

MANY A FOREST

Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club, Inc. Financial Report November 1996

Checking Account Bal. Nov. 1, '96 \$8113.82

Income:

Don Magers (Dues) \$909.00

Van Peterson (Awards) 491.00

ARRL (Dues) 126.00

Total Income \$1526.00

Expenses:

Vern Beard Awards (Sep.-Oct.) \$280.74

Fairmont Awards 974.00

Joe Parsons Pres. 16.04

ReDeposit Ret Check (16.00)

ARRL 112.00

Total Expenses \$1366.78

Checking Bal. Nov. 31, 1996 \$8273.04

Savings Bal. Nov. 1, 1996 \$23483.83

Interest: None

Savings Bal. Nov. 31, 1996 \$23483.83

Diane Landreth, K15TV, Treasurer

COUNTY HUNTING 25 YEARS AGO

January, 1972 saw an increasing activity of mobile and county hunting awards. A monthly meeting of MARAC was held at the QTH of WØSJE. WØSJE (now Silent Key) was the awards chairman at the time and he reported on the awards issued.

Associate Awards - 30 issued, M50M awards - 24 issued, DX Mobile Award - 4 issued, YL mobile award 22 issued, Last County award - 77 issued. Note that this Last County award with 77 issued conforms to the Last County Category One award that we use today for the Last County in the State. Eight Merit awards were issued.

During the month MARAC meeting a lively (no fisticuffs involved) discussion of a potential new award (The MARAC Mobile Award) took place. It was decided that the award would be available for giving out states or counties from the mobile. The discussion ended up with the four categories that we have today being set in place.

As was usual this time of year, several CHers announced plans for a winter trip headed to (where else?) TX and AZ. Only WB8DRR (still the same call) decided to stay near home and run West Virginia counties. They were needed just as desperately then as they are now.

KØAYO lamented that many stations were operating without proper ID. Bob, I have to say that it never got any better. ID-ing is less frequent now than it was then. Continued page 9

New Year's Resolutions

Cleaning the shack can unearth some 'finds of gold' and tidbits of information. I'd like to share with you some information from a publication that applies to all Amateur Radio Operators, not just County Hunters.

CIRCUIT TECHNIQUES

You should use the following guide in developing good voice circuit techniques. To enhance your proficiency, you should practice the techniques on a training net. Remember, though, that nothing can take the place of good common sense.

DO:

Listen before transmitting. Break-ins cause confusion and often block a transmission in progress to the extent that neither transmission gets through. Speak clearly and distinctly. Both slurred syllables and clipped speech are hard to understand. A widespread error among untrained operators is failure to emphasize vowels sufficiently. Speak slowly. Give the receiving operator a chance to get your message down. This can save time and repetitions.

Avoid extremes of pitch. A high-pitched voice cuts through interference best, but is shrill and unpleasant if too high. A lower pitch is easier on the ear, but is difficult to understand through background noises if too low.

Be natural. Maintain a normal speaking rhythm. Group words in a natural manner. Send your message phrase for phrase instead of word for word. Use standard pronunciation. Talkers who use the almost standard pronunciation of a broadcast network announcer are easiest to understand.

Speak in a moderately strong voice in order to override unavoidable background noises and to prevent dropouts.

Keep correct distances between lips and handset. A distance of about 2 inches is correct for most handsets. If the distance is too great, speech becomes inaudible and background noises interfere. If the distance is too small, blaring and blasting result.

Give an accurate evaluation in response to a request for a radio check. A transmission with feedback or a high level of background noise is not "loud and clear," even though the message can be understood.

Pause momentarily after each normal phrase, and interrupt your carrier. This allows any other station with higher precedence traffic to break in.

Adhere strictly to prescribed procedures.

Transact your business and get off the air. Excessive preliminary calls waste time.

DO NOT:

Transmit while surrounded by others loudly discussing the next football game. It confuses the receiving station.

Hold the handset button in the PTT position until absolutely ready to transmit. Your carrier will block other communications on the net.

Hold a handset in such a position that there is a possibility of having feedback from the earphone added to other background noises.

Hold a handset loosely. A firm pressure on the PTT button prevents unintentional release and consequent signal dropout.

Tie up a circuit with test signals. Usually, 10 seconds is sufficient for testing.

Thanks to K6OQZ, Bud for this information.

These directions were extracted from "Radio Communications, Naval Education and Training Command Publication 12801, August 1994, #0502-LP-479-2100, Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited." Are you following these guidelines?

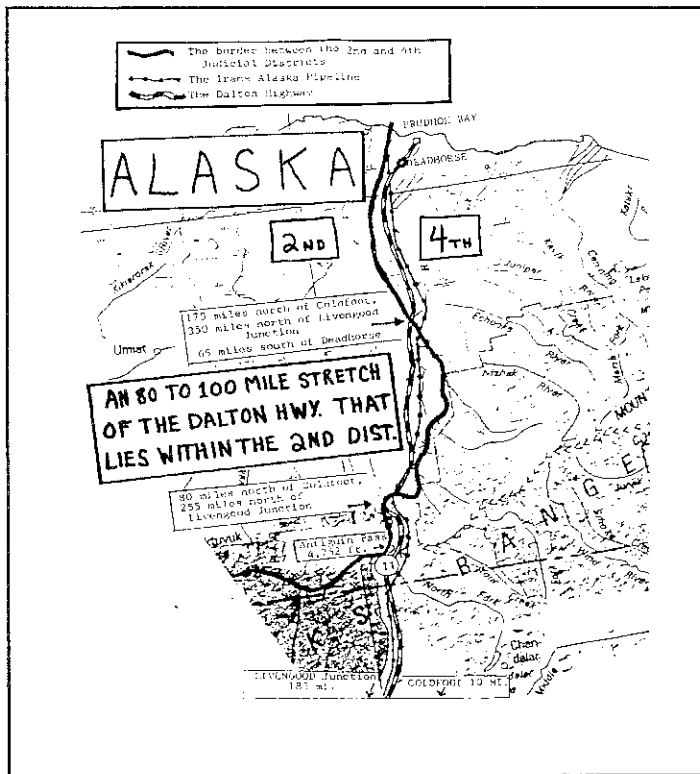
NET OPERATING TIPS

If I am on the mobile list running counties, it behooves me to let the NCS know if I am going to be out of the vehicle for an extended period of time. Otherwise, I may get dropped off the list or put in a limbo status. Many net control stations will put a mobile aside after three or more unanswered calls and leave him in limbo until he is heard again. If I goof and fail to keep the NCS informed, I can still let him know I am active again in a number of ways: work the mobile who is running, so NCS will hear my call; if I can't hear the running mobile, call in for a 'mobile recheck' after the run; or call in between runs with a 'mobile info' break and inform NCS I am back on the road. If I fail to let anyone know I am back, it is not the NCS' fault if I don't get called for several hours; it is my own, and I will take my medicine and not whine nor carp about it.

Mitch, W4RKV

USED TO STAND

Father Terry Planning Alaska Trip



When Ken, KB7QO, put out the 2nd District of Alaska in July of '85, he and Norma needed special permission from the oil consortium to use "their" "NORTH SLOPE HAUL ROAD". In December of 1994, the state of Alaska opened this road to the public.

When Ed, WAØSBR, drove it recently, it was called by its new name, the Dalton Highway. Ed needed no special permits, just a good car and a good spare tire. Ed says that the gravel surface and the dust allows for a 55 mph top speed. From Livengood to Deadhorse Alaska, the 414 mile Dalton Highway is the only road into Alaska's 2nd District from the lower forty eight. But, just when and where do you leave the 4th District and enter the 2nd? Does anyone know of a map that shows this "county line"? If you know of one, please let the rest of MARAC know! I suspect that today's map makers are not much interested in the Judicial District boundaries. But, as long as they are what we county hunters go by, something accurate is needed. My map, shown here, indicates that the Dalton Highway enters the 2nd Judicial District at about 80 miles north of the town of Coldfoot, Alaska' and then goes back into the 4th Judicial District at about 180 miles north of Coldfoot. When traveling the Dalton, you are in the 2nd District for only about 100 miles or so Is this correct? Is this way off? Is there better information? To make my map, I enlarged a 1960 Shell Oil

road map (courtesy of WA7IRD) which shows the Judicial District boundaries, to 193 per cent so that it would correspond to a more recent map that shows the Dalton Highway and Trans-Alaska Pipeline. Superimposing these one on top of the other as best I could, I traced out this map shown. Here we have the boundary and the highway together on one map. This method allows for large error, so I'm hoping that someone knows of something better.

K6HZI, Fr. Terry

N8ELQ's WAM AWARD

Prior to my accident in 1991, I offered a WAM Award. (Work All Monroe). At that time it was common for me to drive through every Monroe County. I am now ready to resume that award...

So...for those who want some new wall paper... The WAM award is now up and running for those who want one...to qualify you must:

1. Work N8ELQ in at least 500 different counties, one of those counties MUST be my home county, Monroe County Michigan.
2. You must work me or someone else in each of the 16 other Monroe Countys around the country.
3. Submit the 516 contacts to me, N8ELQ via Snail Mail or E-Mail. All contacts should have date, time, station called and county worked in submission. No money need be sent, I will take care of postage, etc.
4. Any and all contacts with me or other stations good back to the begining of time.
5. For those who need more information please contact me via snail mail or, n8elq@gatecom.com

73, Randy

USA-CA Numbers

I am pleased to announce two new USA-CA Numbers USA-CA 913 WD3P Larry Calhoon 12/3/96 USA-CA 914 VE9DH James T. Wade 12/3/96 Congratulations to Larry and Jim.. WA3RTY

DUKES & NANTUCKET MA

Percy, KA1JPR, announced that he will be on the islands as follows: Fri & Sat (Jan 10-11) Nantucket MA, Sunday (Jan 12) Dukes MA

County Hunter Web Site www.delve.com/ch/

WHERE A

Change of Call

- ✓KA1CLV, Barry MARAC R-1794 is **N1IA**
- ✓N1JAC, Wally is **KT1M**.
- ✓N2BWE, Burt MARAC R-2661 is **NJ2S**.
- ✓KD3AO, Carter MARAC R-1761 is **N3AO**
- ✓WA3APO, Bob MARAC C-85 is **K15XM**
- ✓N3TUA, Dave MARAC R-2686 is **N3TA**
- ✓KO4QZ, Jerry MARAC R-1348 is **NØGG**
- ✓AB5SQ, Roy MARAC R-2340 is **W5RJ**
- ✓NB6A, Nell MARAC R-507 is **KØGO**
- ✓WA7NNH, Jack MARAC R-2005 is **N7ID**
- ✓K9QYC, Chuck is **K9IA**

Internet E-mail Address

N1IA	Barry	73622.1167@compuserve.com
N1API	Al	alk@ct1.nai.net
WA1U	Geoff	gfox@ix.netcom.com
N3AO	Carter	ccraigie@msn.com
*AE3O	Packy	packypickrell@fsd.com
N3TA	Dave	n3ta@ptd.net
WA3TUC	Paul	pbugen@juno.com
KD4DJ	Bob	rsawininski@aol.com
WB4FBS	Cliff	wb4fbs06@sprynet.com
NX4N	Lloyd	nx4n@gnv.fdt.net
WD5JGS	Jerry	wd5jgs@texoma.net
W5MW	Bill	w5mw@intrserv.com
W5RJ	Roy	w5rj@texas.net
KB5UNX	Morrie	morrie@tenet.edu
W6CCM	Dave	w6ccm@4dcomm.com
W6CCM	Dave	w6ccm@juno.com
N6HJY	Rich	rphill3634@aol.com
WA6POZ	Gerry	a6poz@aol.com
W7NXZ	Dave	dsather@lewistown.net
KJ7TH	Vern	vcombs7707@aol.com
N8BGF	John	n8bgfjohn@worldnet.att.com
N8BNI	Jim	n8bni@cybertrails.com
N8ELQ	Randy	n8elq@gatecom.com
WD9GBH	Herb	herbwd9gbh@juno.com
W9HAO	Jim	jdhorgan@execpc.com
K9IA	Chuck	k9qyc@thesurf.com
N9JLT	Larry	speyer19@mail.idt.net
WA9KFR	Walter	wa9kfr@pitnet.net
WB9NUL	Joyce	w9ucw@aol.com
WA9TSG	Joe	a9tsg@execpc.com
W9UCW	Barry	w9ucw@aol.com
N9VIB	Chris	k9qyc@thesurf.com
W9ZD	Lou	w9zd@juno.com
WBØAXN	Roland	roln@juno.com
KØGO	Nell	nb6a@juno.com
WBØSUN	Sue	stromk0vpp@aol.com
KØVPP	Don	stromk0vpp@aol.com

Changes of Address - Phone Numbers

N3AO Carter W. Craigie R-1761 5 Faggs Manor Lane Paoli, PA 19301-1905. new Tel: 610-993-9623

*NJ2S Dr. Burton Sussman, NJ2S, 3 Escondido Cir, Unit 3, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701-4546 =Seminole

*W2NWL Roger A. Purdy, 1-B Potomac Lane, Whiting, NJ 08759-1813 =Ocean
New area code for W5MW, 972-247-5958

*These were wrong last time. Looks like the type lice got to them. Type lice are microscopic creatures that eat printed type causing it to print differently from what was entered on the original.

From the Mailbox



Guess what, folks!!!! NB6A is now KØGO!!!! I know some of you think giving up NB6A was foolish but KØGO was my first choice of the vanity calls and all of them were neat cw calls. Yes, folks, I STILL intend to get on cw. I AM going to

give out counties cw. I need help in getting my key hooked into my Icom 735 that I use in the house, and my Yaesu FT900at that I use in the vehicle has gone down. I have to figure out WHERE to send it for repair. Anyway, my email address is still nb6a@juno.com. I think KØGO is an appropriate call—I put 20,000 miles on my vehicle last summer!!! Say HI when you send me your mrc's!!!
73, 88 from Nell, KØGO, USA-CA #888

December RR postmarked 5 Dec was delivered in Hawaii on 10 December.

Another source, for those only using Email, Juno, etc., is ACES. Howard very kindly provides all known CH Email addresses in an Email format. You can get the complete list, and weekly updates. Contact him at 102361.507@CompuServe.COM

Golly, my Editor feelings are hurt. I was able to suppress all desires to proofread your work for missing spaces, typos and just enjoy it. You don't really know how hard that is for someone used to reading for minute details and insignificant errors in addition to content. I suggest that those who prefer to proofread be given some really poor input copy to keep them busy. Read for pleasure for a change, relax and be happy. (It's 80 degrees and NOT snowing in Hawaii right now.)

73 John, K1ER

Editor's notes: Had a letter from a reader advising he found 19 error in December. I found: W0OWY=WØOWY; W0UCW=W9UCW; @146t='t; MOORE=Moore; WITEE=W1TEE; interewsts=interests. It's always the case I proofread several times and after it's printed a whole bunch show up. ☺

LIGHTED MATCH

COUNTIES NEEDED

NØLDT, Carol for 3rd Time Around

AR Woodruff **IA** Appanoose, Henry, Madison, Ringgold,
Wayne **KY** Livingston **MI** Muskegon **PA** Armstrong, For-
est, Indiana, Warren One Ringers Okay, J 507-377-9148.

KØAYO, Bob Last Counties In Some States (2nd Time)

AL: Clay Franklin, Lauderdale **AK**, 4th **CO** Bent, Kiowa,
Prowers, Yuma **FL** Martin, Monroe, Pinellas **GA**: Dade,
Douglas, Heard, Newton **ID**: Bingham, Gem, Gooding,
Latah **KY**: Trigg, Wayne, Wolfe **NJ**: Sussex **NM**: Lea **WY**:
Goshen, Sublette.

WBØDPD, MARAC Club Station

AR: Craighcad, Franklin, Howard, Pike **CO**: Crowley
MN: Houston, Meeker, Murray, Wilkin, **MS**: George, Isse-
quena, Walthall, **MT**: Daniels, Sheridan **NV**: Lincoln
NC: Harnet Lincoln, Montgomery, Nash, Rowan **OK**:
Caddo LeFlore, Mayes, Pawnee **PA**: Clearfield, Crawford,
Forest **SD**: Clark Clay **TN**: Morgan, Smith, Weakley.

WB9YCO, Dale For Bingo

GA: Laurens, Quitman **MI**: Alger, Gladwin, Luce **MO**:
Audrain **MT**: Daniels, Treasure **NC**: Yancey **OH**: Clermont
One ringers would be appreciated. 414 766-0354

W2NWL Roger email to wb2huv@injersy.com

AL: Crenshaw, Franklin **AR**: Grant, Lee **CA**: Yuba, **CO**:
Hinsdale, Ouray, San Juan, San Miguel, **IA**: Buchanan
ID: Valley **KS**: Cherokee, Decatur **KY**: Bourbon,
McCreary, Monroe, Owen, Shelby **MT**: Blaine, Golden
Valley, Roosevelt, Wheatland **NE**: Boyd, Perkins, Saun-
ders **NY**: Orleans **OR**: Crook, Wheeler **SD**: Campbell
TN: Bledsoe, Meigs, Rhea, Sequatchie **TX**: Crosby **WA**:
Asotin Douglas, Garfield, Kitsap, Pend Oreille, Sno-
homish

WA4RRR Alice 12 counties:

IL: Edwards, Perry **KS**: Meade **MO**: Camden, Christian
NE: Boone, Phelps, Polk **VA**: Charlotte, Floyd, Franklin,
Scott Last known phone 502-843-6169

AC4XL Jim email to ac4xl@juno.com

IL: Fulton, McDonough **KY**: Bath, Clark, Fleming,
Jessamine **NC**: Bladen, Hyde, Madion, Mitchell,
Transylvania **PA**: Fayette **VA**: Montgomery, Tazewell

W6TPC Harry email ward@novell.wd.cubic.com

KY: Butler **MS**: Choctow **PA**: Lawrence **VA**: Greene,
Highland, Powhatan

N8CIJ Dick 3RD Email to :robrecht@ashland.edu

IA: Emmet, Floyd **IL**: Dewitt **KY**: Bourbon, Lewis **MI**:
Emmet, Gladwin, Ingham **NC**: Greene, Rutherford **OH**:
Hamilton, Hancock, Mahoning **PA**: Clarion

Reply to December 1996 Query

At the outset let me congratulate Walt K4ELK and Eleanor, KD4NFE on running counties in all 48 states. That's quite an accomplishment as all of us that have run all 48 states can attest. In my shack hang 4 MARAC car plaques whose brass plates exclaim the endeavors of June, N9BAE, Roby, WD9ITQ and Tom K9GTQ. We didn't get plaques for the 'first' band because there were several others who had run 48 states ahead of us. (I have run all 48 as well.) So we decided to at least document the second and third band efforts where we were numbers one and two.

Thus, car plaques declare that: WD9ITQ was 1st, all 48 states, Two bands; N9BAE was 2nd, all 48 states, Two bands; Followed by N9BAE 1st, all 48 states, Three bands; and WD9ITQ, 2nd all 48 states, Three bands, as worked by K9GTQ

Beyond that, I also was the first person to work the WD9ITQ-N9BAE 'mobile' combo on the 3905 Century Club 75 meter net. I did not get any certificate for doing so, as I was not a Century Club member. But N3DRO-Barbara, was the second to work them in all 48 states and as a CC member has a club certificate for the accomplishment issued about October 1985! In researching the three band efforts, Rob- told me we had another achievement, which was that we had worked all 48 states three times chronologically during the time it took to complete the three bands effort. Not ones to be undaunted, we took the next achievement right in stride and I worked the team on 6 bands in Lincoln county, WI! I was outdone in that effort when John-KE4UP had later worked June-Roby on 7 bands in Isle of Wight county, VA!

Now a question in reply to the question posed in the DEC-QUERY, which is relative to the working of 'this' team in all 48... Is the question "has anyone worked Walt and Eleanor in all 48?" or is it posed to ask if anyone has worked any team in 48??? I relate that to the government definition? and cite as an example the age old statement of the nets... "he didn't get the report, have him go again!" Question, WHO is HE and WHOM is HIM. And where's Abbott and Costello with "Who's on First?"!!! Like it or not, if you sit back and take a loooooonnnnggg look, we are pretty funny in more ways than maybe any of us want to admit!

HiHi

73! Tom, K9GTQ

GOT OUT OF HAND

1997 MARAC CONVENTION MILLIONAIRE CONTEST! JANUARY BONUS ITEM:

During the month of JANUARY a special bonus item! Work 5 different stations in 5 different counties on BOTH SSB and CW! 40,000 points,

OK — You SSB operators let's hear you on CW and you CW only operators let's hear you on SSB! Remember same station on both CW and SSB! This one will narrow down the field

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM AVAILABLE IN THE JANUARY ROADRUNNER!

CONVENTION ACTIVITIES:

Remember to register with the HOTEL also! Hotel registrations are being accepted NOW. CALL TOLL FREE 1-800 327-1363 and ask for MARAC rates!

I am advised that our 800 number for registering for the 97 Orlando Convention is only in use between hours of 8am-9pm Mon thru Friday, and 9am to 5pm on Sat & sun ALL TIMES EST

Early registrations now receive 3 free tickets on special drawing for a new HF transceiver! (GOOD until 01-31-97)

Register in JANUARY and get THREE tickets for the special drawing for a new Transceiver and up to 15 FREE room nights! Register in December and you will get four tickets! down 1 ticket each month until April. Wait until April and there may be NO rooms available at the convention hotel! We have plenty of rooms available to us until April 1, but we are not assured of any rooms after that date! Tickets for this drawing WILL NOT BE SOLD so your chances are high for winning the radio or nights lodgings. The tickets will be given to you upon arrival in Orlando!

We wrote earlier about Walt Disney's World - "The Magic Kingdom" now experience the rest of our Wonderful World EPCOT! Visit the World Showcase, where you will find exhibits, rides, cultural displays, restaurants native to their respective country. Near the entrance to the World Showcase you will find the Space-ship Earth, (that's the building that looks like a 180 foot high golf ball - one that even WØWYJ can't budge) and inside is a spiral through the dramatic history of human communications - from the earliest cave dwellings to satellite technology. Then ride through on of

the world's largest "star fields" for a remarkable view of the planet we call home.

On both the East and West sides of the space-ship earth is housed hours of encounters with tomorrow's technologies including the world of computers, Virtual reality, you name it! Prior to entering the World Showcase are interesting, safe and comfortable rides that take you to The World of Motion, Horizons, Wonders of life, Universe of Energy (my favorite), a Journey into imagination, the Land and the Living seas. Take a stroll, (or ride the boats or street cars) around the huge lagoon and visit Mexico, Norway, China, Germany, Italy, The American Adventure, Japan, Morocco, France, the United Kingdom (maybe we can get G4KHG, Eddie and his YL Barbara to pose for some photos here for us), and Canada. Very interesting floating rides are found in Norway and Mexico A 360° Circle vision presentation is found in China. At the American pavilion you will find "The American Adventure" the moving and inspirational story comes to life as Benjamin Franklin and Mark Twain host an astonishing achievement in audio-animatronics technology, and the American Garden Theatre which houses live outdoor entertainment! In France be sure to visit the "Impressions de France", an 180° motion-picture technology! By all means be sure to set aside time for the 360° showcase circle vision presentation of "O Canada" After a day long visit to Epcot's showcase countries, find a spot to enjoy the nightly fireworks and laser display "IllumiNations" over the World Show Case Lagoon! Be sure your young ones accompany you for this memorable display!

KJ4EJ Publicity Chairman

The following have registered at the 97 Convention Host Hotel and are entitled to five (5) tickets in the Early Registration drawing for a new HF Rig AND UP TO 15 FREE NIGHTS LODGING VOUCHERS! AB4QD (10 TICKETS 2 ROOMS), G4KHG, HB9RG, K5BDX, K5HT (10 TICKETS 2 ROOMS), K6OHM, K9DAF, KD2Q, KD4PY, KD4ZJ, KD7G, KJ4EJ, KJ5PQ, KM4ES (10 TICKETS 2 ROOMS), KN4JR, KZ2P, NOLDT, N2CWG, N4EED (15 tickets - rooms), N4UMR, N8BGF, N8CIJ, N8STF, NF0X, VE1AIT, W3XE, W4RKV, W9UCW, WA3TUC, WB7VIZ, WB9NUL, and WWØG. If you registered in NOVEMBER and are not on list send e-mail or contact KN4JR at kn4jr@juno.com

KN4JR, Solly, Convener

Fighting Ignition Noise

In my experience, there are three parts to the job of installing HF mobile in a vehicle:

Installing the radio, installing the antenna, and suppressing noise. Of the three, suppressing noise is probably the hardest.

The first question is what kind of noise you are experiencing. If it sounds like a popping noise, and gets louder when you accelerate, it is probably ignition noise. If it is a hash type noise, it is probably an electric motor. The engine fans on my Tercel were very bad, but only ran in traffic, so I just lived with it. I was told that .001uf caps, short leads, from the motor to ground would help, but never did it. Some electric fuel pumps can be very noisy. One test to see if the noise is coming from the power cable or the antenna is to disconnect the antenna. If you still have noise, work on the power cable. If the noise goes away, the power is OK, focus on suppressing noise at the source. If you connect the radio power cable directly to the battery, you will probably not experience noise on the power cable. (Don't forget to fuse both plus and minus at the battery for safety). Heavy cable is advisable; I would not use anything smaller than 12 ga, and some people use welding cable. I assume here that you have broadband noise across various bands. If you have a single frequency birdie, you probably have noise from the computer crystal. You might check to be sure that you have resistor plugs and wires before starting more serious work. Also, be sure that your noise blanker is on, although most radios do not have super-effective noise blankers. On a 1979 Honda Civic with points, I used resistor plugs and wires, which solved the problem, but meant that I had to change the points every 5000 miles or so, as the ignition system was designed for resistor wires only, and if the ignition system was not perfect, the car ran poorly.

On a 1985 Toyota Tercel, I had tremendous luck suppressing ignition noise by buying heavy copper tubular braid, and slipping it over the spark plug wires. I built a copper box that covered most of the distributor, bonded the braid to the box, and then bonded the box to the block, keeping the wires short. This was a day and night improvement, and I never felt the need to do any more ignition noise suppression. On a 1996 Subaru Legacy, I again built a copper box, and bought more tubular braid. However, I only got an improvement of about 2 S-units. I needed more, especially on 40 meters, so I ran two ground wires from the exhaust pipe to the chassis. This was probably worth more than 2

S-units, and finished the job to my satisfaction. If you are systematic, you should be able to identify the source of any problems and correct them. A couple of other notes on HF mobile installations. Don Johnson, W6AAQ wrote the book, "40+5 YEARS OF HF MOBILEERING." Try to get a copy.

I use the Hustler antenna system, and find it adequate except on 75 m. If you plan to operate 75m, consider a WB5TYD Texas Bug Catcher or a Screwdriver antenna. Unless you have an automatic or remote tuning system, the antenna bandwidth on 75m will probably be only about 50kc or so. I have never invested the time and effort required to achieve a satisfactory 75m installation.

Good luck Richard Ferguson, KA0DXM
raferguson@worldnet.att.net

COUNTY HUNTING 25 YEARS AGO Continued from page 3...

Bob, I have to say that it never got any better. ID-ing is less frequent now than it was then.

The list of new MARAC members - many still active we see new members of MARAC being W5ILR, WB2CUI, K4FPF, and K0PFV. All still active members of MARAC. Congratulation to all of you for being faithful and loyal to the club.

The final details for the MARAC Mobile Award were listed as an attachment to the January Newsletter. Of interest - the Mobile Achievement Award came into being several years later when the active CW folks disbanded. MARAC picked up the Mobile Achievement Award - but that is another story.

3077 counties worked were required for the all counties awards both for the USA-CA and for the various MARAC awards achieving the all counties level. There have been several changes in recognized counties since then but ending up at the 3076 requirement that we see today.

If you have a bit of County Hunting History from twenty five years ago, please write a note to me with the details. Who, What, When, Where, Etc. Wet County Lines, Four County Points were still legal in January 1977.

Next month, February 1973 - What were you doing with respect to County Hunting at that time?

73 es Hamma Gooday de Bill, W0OWY

The RoadRunner

MARAC SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT MINI

ANNOUNCING: The 1997 South Central District Mini

DATES: March 13th, 14th and 15th, 1997

LOCATION: Lake Texoma Resort, Lake Texoma, Oklahoma - Near the TX-OK border on US 70. (Note: RV Space is available at the Resort)

DIRECTIONS: HWY US 70 13 miles West of US 75 at Durant, Oklahoma

ROOM RATE: All Rooms \$53.00 / Night + 5% Tax. A block of 60 rooms will be held until Feb. 6th. After this date, rooms at the same rate **AS AVAILABLE**.

MAKE RESERVATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

RESERVATION: Write LAKE TEXOMA RESORT, Box 248; Kingston, OK 73439. Tel. (405) 564 - 2311 use Group #1463 OR use **MARAC**.

ACTIVITIES: Golf tourney Friday Morning. Choctaw Indian Bingo Friday Evening 5:30 PM. MARAC Meeting 1:00 PM Saturday Afternoon. There will be a No Host Dinner at Sanfords Thursday and Friday evening if enough folks are interested. Indicate on Registration form how many plan to attend.

Note: If you missed the Potato Soup last year, you had best try to make it this year). W9UCW will do his antenna forum Saturday. Guide service for striper fishing available. Let WD5JGS know if you are interested.

HOSPITALITY: Opens Thursday evening hosted by Joyce, WB9NUL

PRIZES: **ALL PRIZE DONATIONS WILL BE APPRECIATED**

DINNER: Saturday Night Dinner, Buffet Style \$17.00/person. Includes choice of two meats, vegetables, salad, dessert and drink.

REGISTRATION: \$12.00 for OM/YL or \$9.00 single. Registration includes Name Tag, Group Photo and Drawing for any prizes

**COMPLETE FORM BELOW AND SEND WITH
REGISTRATION FEE AND COST OF SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER TO:**

JERRY L. WEAVER, W D5JGS
RR #1. BOX 267
DENISON, TEXAS 75020
Tel. (903) 463-3231
Make checks Payable to Jerry Weaver.

1997 SOUTH CENTRAL MINI CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____ CALL _____ USA-CA _____
 SPOUSE _____ CALL _____ USA-CA _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 REGISTRATION FEE _____ \$ _____
 BANQUET _____ (#) AT \$17.00 _____ \$ _____
 TOTAL ENCLOSED _____ \$ _____
 CHOCTAW BINGO # _____ SANFORD'S DINNER # _____ FRI ☐ THUR. ☐

An Open Letter

In defense of recent slings-n-arrows about my signing cards, I will say this only once and hope the problem can be put behind us. To continue picking at something that happened over 11 years ago is no longer just a personal issue. It is a serious detriment to net operations in that it shows everyone there are open personal and individual grudges that should not be any part of Net operations! I have a trophy in my shack honoring 1000 hours as net control. At the time I had over 1600 hours, but only a thousand were needed to attain the trophy. When I took net control, I had only one rule. "The most number of contacts for the most number of people in the shortest amount of time!" I have checked my mobile logs for my entire tenure of County Hunting, beginning 5/1968. My logs indicate I have confirmed some 40 counties in 9 states for this vocal complainer. My card file contains only one MRC for just one county from this individual, with a nasty-gram handwritten thereon, saying "Unlike yourself, I don't mind taking a little extra time and effort to help a fellow amateur." This reply card is for only his home county Talk about going out of a persons' way for another, now I tell you!! Wow! I've had one heart attack and two follow-up operations. I am diagnosed with adult onset diabetes. I am retired for two years now, and I think because of certain stress changes in my life style, have been able to stop smoking and lose some 75 or so pounds. I have little else to occupy my radio time, and since I have invested almost half my life in County Hunting, no single persons' grudge for "not signing cards" will drive me away! I intend to be around the various net frequencies- until I die, and God willing, that will be for a long time to come. I have already outlived my first doctors' estimate by two years, so I must be doing something right. Yet every time this guy has chastised me in some manner, my heart does another flip-flop. I think I will re-write my will and let someone else argue it out if an on-the-air incident causes me the big one! I have had unsigned cards returned many times over the past 28+ years, and not once have I ever generated a 'grudge' against any one of the operators. Life is just too short for that. I just 'consider the source' as they say, and rework the counties! I sure would not bother to remember any one person for 11 years, and continue to harass that person on the air. Hate me if you will, but you make a very terrible NCS when you arbitrarily sit in judgment of those amateurs who present themselves to participate in the net activity. And what do you have against the recipient when you refuse my giving a last county contact to someone who is not on your hate list??!! I have in the past and will continue, to sign any MRC that is supported by my logs and has

been made out according to the accepted manner of doing so, even on a by band basis. I am adamant that if the signal report you QSL on net is the only factor that cannot be relayed; then the report I gave you must be the one shown on the MRC you send me for my signature! Anything else has been and will continue to be returned for your re-evaluation. Some were, and it was found they had put the wrong report on the MRC. When the MRC was correct, I gladly signed them. If you stop and listen, we CHers pass more traffic than do most traffic nets. That is, we 'handle' more data in a given amount of time, so why not strive to make ourselves better operators by working to 'get it right'!! In '94 and '96, my YL and I have driven some 15,000 miles through about 500 counties, WI to FL and return, and the other trip, WI to CA to TX and return. Most of these have not been run due to this one persons' egotistical, hatred attitude towards another ham. Now I ask you just how much loss to the net is this one persons petty gripe really worth? Since he refuses to recognize ALL mobiles whenever he is NCS, I suggest that he was not really qualified to earn the NCS of the Year award, according to the criteria outlined by MARAC.

You know, "There is so much bad in the best of us, and so much good in the worst of us, that it hardly behooves any of us to sit in judgment of the rest of us."

Levity lifts! How can you pass this point in your life and not care enough to try to make it a better place than it was?!

Faster isn't always better. There are no endorsements to the USA-CA for the speed of accomplishment and there should never be. The award was not intended to be a hasty achievement!

It is known that N4ANV/Mobile worked all states in about 15 minutes during one county run. If he would have been limited by a "ten minute rule," would he have ever accomplished that feat? Probably not.

73, Tom, K9GTQ

Editor's note: This may seem controversial but since the RoadRunner is the voice of MARAC and the membership, I would be remiss in my duties if I only printed happy news. Unfortunately there are some who will no doubt disagree with this philosophy but, we will continue to print both sides of any question. You can't make a decent omelet without cracking a few eggs. And don't forget the cheese!

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

If your mailing label indicates 199702 or 199703, it is time to renew. Annual dues with First Class mailing of the Newsletter are \$19.00. Annual dues with Third Class mailing of the Newsletter are \$16.00. Third class mailing is available within the USA only. Annual dues with the Newsletter mailed Air Mail to all continents other than North America are \$30.00. Please make your check or money order payable to MARAC, Inc. and mail to the MARAC Membership Secretary, Don Magers, KE5WL, 406 Cherry Park Drive, Sherman, TX 75090-6709.

MARAC INFORMATION PACKET

Get the word out to potential new members and interested County Hunters that a County Hunting Information Packet is available. The Information Packet includes information about MARAC, QSLing, Net Operation, County Hunting supplies, etc. Send the request with a business size envelope with \$0.55 postage to:

MARAC Information Bureau, 406 Cherry Park Drive, Sherman, TX 75090-6709

Europeans can get the Packet from Eddie, G4KHG.

ARRL MEMBERSHIPS

I wish to thank our MARAC members, who have demonstrated their support of MARAC, by submitting their ARRL memberships through the MARAC Secretary.



October KA1JPR, KA1QBC, KF8K, AE3O, K8GPC

November WD8ELH, KKØL, N7MPS

December KD4Z

I process these applications on a monthly basis. My cutoff day for each processing cycle for these is the last day of the month. For example, if your ARRL renewal notice requests you return it to them by April 15, I should receive it on or before March 31. We do not want anyone to miss a copy of QST, because of their support of MARAC.

For each ARRL membership, Regular (\$31.00) or Senior (\$25.00) Memberships, MARAC gets a fee of \$2.00 for a renewal or \$5.00 for a new membership. To take advantage of this, I ask that you mail the ARRL membership application and your check made out to MARAC for the amount of the ARRL dues to: MARAC Inc., 406 Cherry Park Drive, Sherman, TX 75090-6709.

Changes in Call/Address Etc.

C-99 WAØSBR Ed Eastwold, 42 Cactus Place, Sioux Falls, SD, 57110-6429, =MINNEHAHA

R-211 W9ZD Louis Wenisch, 1307 Laurel Ave. Venice, FL 34292-2924 =SARASOTA

R-512 WB4UPW Frank Winn, 3908 Keith, Avenue, Fairfax, VA, 22030-3120, =FAIRFAX

R-968 WD9EMW John Graham, P.O. Box 183, Noblesville, IN, 46061-0183, =HAMILTON

R-1794 N1IA Barry Dutcher, 6 Prospect Street, Maynard, MA, 01754-1315, =MIDDLESEX

R-2216 K6PJ Larry Springer, 20305 Northglen Square, Cupertino, CA, 95014-0519, =SANTA CLARA

R-2251 WØFLZ Paul E Butler, 152-242 Scrubby Bluff Road, Kingsland, GA, 31548-9102, =CAMDEN

R-2313 W6TMD Darrel Craig, 200 Barcelona Circle, Fullerton, CA, 92835-1752, =ORANGE

R-2339 N4ABR George a. Estes, 308 Melonie Court, Chesapeake, VA, 23320-5407, =ISLE OF WIGHT

R-2544 N4RS Tom Pennebaker, 150 Carter Dairy Road, Stoneville, NC, 27048-7521, =ROCKINGHAM

R-2591 KGØBB T.M. 'Tom' Carr, 513 Peterson Street, Wichita, KS, 67212-3761, =SEDGWICK

R-2630 NX4W Lloyd S. Smith, 12220 NW 157th Street, Alachua, FL, 32615-6445, =ALACHUA

R-2655 KØCQB Harold E. Byram, 3590 Round Bottom Road, Suite F 216940, Cincinnati, OH, 45244-3026, =HAMILTON

R-2738 K9CS Carl Schroeder, Route 3 Box 190, Watseka, IL, 60970-9555, =IROQUOIS

Moving? Don't miss an issue of The County Line RoadRunner. Change of address from:

Call.....MARAC #.....
Name.....
Address.....
City.....State.....Zip.....

New Address

Address.....
City.....State.....Zip.....

Send to Membership Secretary
Don Magers, KE5WL
406 Cherry Park Drive
Sherman, TX 75090-6709

XXIX Annual MARAC National Convention XXIX**Orlando, Florida July 8 to 12, 1997**

Name _____
Address: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Name on Badge _____ Call _____ USA-CA _____

(Registration includes group photo and name badge for above person) **\$25.00**

Additional Name Badges (\$5.00 each)

Spouse _____ Call _____ USA-CA _____
Other _____ Call _____ USA-CA _____
Other _____ Call _____ USA-CA _____ # _____ x \$5.00 \$ _____

Kennedy Space Center Bus Trip # _____ x \$10.00 _____
Friday Night Hawaiian Luau # _____ x \$26.00 _____
Saturday Night (Sit-Down) Banquet # _____ x \$25.00 _____

Indicate food preference # _____ Prime Rib # _____ Chicken

Donations for prizes \$1.00 each or 12 for \$10.00

Ham Prizes # _____ x \$ _____
YL Prizes # _____ x \$ _____

Extra Photos

USA-CA Holders # _____ x \$5.00 _____
YL # _____ x \$5.00 _____
CW Oerators # _____ x \$5.00 _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Interested in playing golf? YES _____ No _____ How Many? _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MARAC CONVENTION (DO NOT SEND CASH)

Mail Registration Form and check to:

Millard H. Solomon, KN4JR

1809 4th Ct. SE

Winter Haven, FL 33880-4828

MAKE YOUR OWN HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS

Call 1-800-327-1363 Mention MARAC for \$57.00 room rate

RAMADA RESORT HOTEL

7400 International Drive

Orlando, FL 32819-9990

Silent Keys

Word received from Mary, KC5UO that Mike Gray known to many of us as "Black Bart" became a silent key November 22, 1996. I was among the many who had the good fortune to have met him and he shall long be remembered for his great sense of humor. I am sure Mike and Ed are looking down on us and wishing us well. W6CCM, Dave

The last 12 months have seen go several good friends, but none as close as Mike. During one of our eyeballs in VA he took most of the time we spent together to explain mobile antennas to a rookie County Hunter, I still apply that conversation to installing mobile antenna, Safe Journey Mike N8ELQ, Randy

So Long Black Bart. Mike will be missed as a good friend to all of us. KA1CLV, Barry

Some one really did a job on K5OUK when they stuck "Black Bart" on him. He was the exact opposite of the normal interpretation of that moniker. He was a wonderful person, and I am sorry we lived on opposite side of the country. It makes it hard to be good buddies. WA6OCI, Adam

Those of us who knew Mike and had met him personally will never forget him. Goodbye, old friend, we'll miss you. 73, W4RKV Mitch

So Long Mike. Once again we have lost a long-time member of our group. Mike was a very decent man with a tremendous sense of humor who served us well. I'll be reminded of him every time I see an empty can of Pepsi (ask Jerry, WD5JGS, about this). 73 Mike and Godspeed. Don, K7DM

It was my pleasure and privilege to have met Mike personally at two of our CH national conventions. You will be sadly missed, Mike, by many people from many parts of the world. So long, my friend.... Ken, VK5QW

They Don't makem like that any more. One of the things I enjoy about county hunting is the PEOPLE like W5QLD, Grady and now K5OUK, Mike. What made them different is their sense of perspective and humor, about the world. When you listen to these people over the air you get the real personality, and not the superficial. Mike above all suffered from some real setbacks over the last 10 years and yet, Mike always kept his sense of humor and love for life. I miss guys like Grady and Mike. I am glad I got a chance to know them, and am better off for it. I'm sure there are things to do like County Hunt in heaven! KF0LZ, Dave

More sad news

KC8AGO Kathy Sempert became a silent key on November 24 1996 Kathy was the xyl of K8OHC. Bill would like to say thanks for all the cards and letters of sympathy.

K2CTJ, Mike became a silent key in November, 1996. He was the husband of Ann and USA-CA #597.

KB6CDK, Emanuel Franzel became a silent key in November, 1996. He was a new member of our group.

I think the only down side to the position of editor of the RoadRunner is having to write and publish this column. I have known so many fine people over the 25+ years that I have been involved in this aspect of our chosen hobby and the passing of each one is a sad event. Fortunately I have also had the pleasure of sharing good times with so many, conventions, last county contacts, and the like, that the brief moment of sadness soon gives way to a thought of those happier times. I have found that life is too short for me to miss out on the enjoyment being offered. If I do not extend my hand in a gesture of friendship, I can never be a friend or have a friend. The petty animosities that seem to affect our society have no room in my life. I deal with each person that I am fortunate to meet as I would with a brother or sister. The loss of a friend affects me as much as the loss of any other family member, since County Hunters are yet another family in my relationship with the world. My brother firefighters, members of various fraternal and other fellowships that I have become a member of over the years are also a part of my relationship. Our deepest sympathies to those who remain behind. Be comforted by knowing they are at peace and removed from strife.

30, W6CCM



NO, I DIDN'T BRING MY AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR'S LICENSE --- THEY ALWAYS TOLD ME I COULDN'T TAKE IT WITH ME

COUNTY HUNTER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM

County Hunter of the Year Award Application Procedure:

1. List in order why your nominee meets each of the award criteria as listed.
2. Specify how your nominee has performed over time for each of the listed criteria.
3. Copy this form for additional nominations or for a second mode nomination.
4. Nominee **MUST** be a MARAC member in good standing.

To: District Director- _____ District

I hereby nominate _____ (Name and Call) as the ____ CW ____ SSB (Check One) County Hunter of the Year for 1997 and would like to see this person announced as the winner at the convention in Orlando, FL. I believe that this nominee is an appropriate candidate for County Hunter of the Year for 1997 because:

	Current Year	Past Years
Mobile Ops	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
Net Control	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
Club Support	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
Other Work	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
Tech Prof.	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
Overall	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____

This nomination must be received by the District Director NLT March 15, 1997.

Signature _____

Call _____

MARAC# _____

Club Officers

President: Joe Parsons, W5UJO, 1639 Evergreen Dr., Mesquite, TX 75149-6341
 ☎ 214-288-1494

Vice-president: Jerry Weaver, WD5JGS, R.R.1-Box 267,
 Denison, TX 75020-3021

☎ 903-463-3231 email wd5jgs@texoma.net

Secretary: Donald Simmonds, K5BDX, 5709 Azteca Dr.,
 Fort Worth, TX 76112-9613

☎ 817-878-6824 e-mail 1 buzzsimm@airmail.net

Treasurer: Diane Landreth, K15TV, Rt. 2-Box 43B, Leonard, TX 75452-5036
 ☎ 214-516-0146

Headquarters Directors

Mike Carver, KG5UZ, 2013 Eagle Nest Pass, Lewisville, TX 75067-7501

☎ 972-317-8710 email cheryl.mohon@xn.xerox.com

Cheryl Mohon, KJ5PQ, 2013 Eagle Nest Pass, Lewisville, TX 75067-7501

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Bill Peale, W5MW, 13432 Emeline St., Dallas, TX 75234-5036

☎ 972-247-5958 email w5mw@interserv.com

District Directors

Great Lakes: George Roberts, KB3GN, 10 Spring Blossom Ln.,
 Gerrardstown, WV 25420-9635

☎ 304-229-5335

North Central: Joe Lindley, WB0CQO, 320 E. 5th St., Murray, IA 50174-9422

☎ 515-447-2144

North East: John Butler, WB2NFB, P.O. Box 941, Johnstown, NY 12095-0941

☎ 518-762-1283

Pacific: Don McMinds, K7DM 5365 Worth Way, Philomath, OR 97370-9025

☎ 541-929-2494 email dlm@ev.hp.com

South Central: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, Rt. 6 Box 748A,
 Harlingen, TX 78552-9806

☎ 210-423-8660

South East: Gene Tyree, N4ANV, 5222 Sumac Circle,
 Fayetteville, NC 28304-5855

☎ 910-425-8003 email n4anv@aol.com

Other Members of the Board

Awards Chairman: Vernon C. Beard, WB3IET, P. O. Box 6004
 Erie, PA 16512-6004

☎ 814-864-9378 email vjbeard@erie.net

Immediate Past President: Don Strom, KØVPP, 11421 Johnson Circle,
 Bloomington, MN 55437-3527

☎ 612-546-4371 email stromk0vpp@aol.com

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 Sherman, TX 75090-6709

☎ 903-892-6450

Newsletter Editor: Dave Manescu, W6CCM, 9323 Pennywood Rd.,
 Santee, CA 92071-2135

☎ 619-258-0172 e-mail w6ccm@4dcomm.com

Awards Committee

Listed by area of representation

Great Lakes: Paula Batema, N8EMV, 1567 66th St, Fennville, MI 49408-9741

☎ 616-227-3794

North Central: Les Springmire, W9GPC, 9554 E. Fowler Rd.

Rochelle, IL 61068-9739

☎ 815-562-2511

North East & DX: Barry Dutcher, N1HA, 6 Prospect St.,
 Maynard, MA 01754-1315

☎ 508-897-9835 email 73622.1167@compuserve.com

Pacific: Avon Anderson, WB7WBZ, N 1035 Highland Ct.,

Post Falls, ID 83854-8807

☎ 208-773-6767 email w7lqt@juno.com

South Central: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, Rt. 6 Box 748A,

Harlingen, TX 78552-9806

☎ 210-423-8660

South East: Jim Thomas, KB4XK, 283 Thomas Dr.,

Semora, NC 27343-9635

☎ 910-234-8938

At large members: Pete Peterson, K4QFK, and Joe Parsons, W5UJO.



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